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Requirements of United States quarantine regulations not complied with.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Gruver states, under date of April 18, that the agents for steamers bound from Guayaquil for Panama refuse to comply with the United States quarantine regulations, claiming that compliance with these regulations is not required by the officials of the Panaman Government. The matter has been taken up with the Department of State.

Requirements to vessels clearing or intending to clear for ports in the United States or Panama.

GUAYAQUIL, April 5, 1904.

INCOMING VESSELS.

All cases of sickness or deaths from whatever cause, either during last voyage or while in port, should be reported immediately to the medical officer of the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service, stationed at the United States consulate.

All passengers landing at this port to be inspected by said officer before disembarkation.

OUTGOING VESSELS.

Masters of vessels departing from this port must obtain a bill of health in duplicate, signed by the medical officer of the United States Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service. The applicant for the bill of health must be able to supply the following data: Name of vessel, nationality, rig, name of master, tonnage gross, tonnage net, iron or wood, number of compartments for cargo, compartments for crew, compartments for steerage passengers, name of medical officer, number of ship's officers, number of crew, including petty officers, number of cabin passengers, number of steerage passengers, number of crew or passengers landed at this port, number of crew or passengers embarked at this port, total number of persons on board, port of departure, where from last, destination, source of water and food supplied, number cases of sickness and character of same during last voyage, number cases of sickness and character of same while vessel was in port. Before such bill of health can be issued the following rules must be complied with:

Vessels entering the ports of the United States and Panama are required to be mechanically clean and kept in good sanitary condition. Special attention should be given to the forecastles, galleys, toilets, baths, and living apartments.

Before loading is begun vessels will be subject to inspection, and upon its completion the master will be informed as to what sanitary measures are deemed necessary and the probable time required to carry them into effect.

As early as possible the cargo manifests should be presented at this office for examination. If it is not practicable to present manifests, boat notes or bills of lading should be presented instead. In every case, before cargo, stores, or other articles are taken aboard, the con-

sent of this office should be first obtained; otherwise suspected cargo might have to be unloaded and the vessel disinfected.

All persons, including crew, passengers, and their effects, taken on at this port are subject to inspection before embarkation. This will be made by daylight, as late as possible before vessel sails.

After the final inspection, which is made on board by the medical officer, no further communication with shore or other vessels in the harbor can be allowed.

The violation of any of these requirements will necessitate the withholding of the bill of health.

Respectfully,

FLEETWOOD GRUVER,
Acting Assistant Surgeon.

GERMANY.

Report from Berlin—Plague and cholera in various countries.

Consul-General Mason reports, April 25, as follows:

Plague.

Egypt.—During the week ended April 9 the total number of plague cases registered in Egypt amounted to 49 (with 45 deaths), namely: 2 cases (1 death) in Alexandria; 5 cases (3 deaths) in Dechneh; 1 case (1 death) in Aschmun; 19 cases (11 deaths) in the Samallut district; 5 fresh cases (9 deaths) in the district of Baliana; 13 new cases (16 deaths) in the Nag-Hamadi district; 3 cases (1 death) in Beni-Mazar; 1 fresh case (2 deaths) in the Tahta district, and 1 death in the district of Bibeh.

British India.—During the week ended March 26 there were registered in the Bombay Presidency 10,750 plague cases (and 8,315 deaths), of which 1,053 cases (931 deaths) occurred in the city of Bombay; 253 cases (215 deaths) in Karachi; 94 cases (81 deaths) in Jamnagar; 29 cases (17 deaths) in Veraval; 2 cases (2 deaths) in Broach.

Mauritius.—During the period from February 5 to March 3, 14 cases of plague (10 deaths) were registered on the island.

Cholera.

Turkey.—The authorities now concede the existence of a mild epidemic of cholera in Bagdad. The population of the city of Bagdad, including its suburbs, amounts to about 200,000. In the beginning of March the average number of cholera cases registered amounted to from 1 to 2 daily.

Death rate of Berlin and other cities.

The death rate of Berlin for the week ended April 9, 1904, was lower than that of the last preceding week, amounting, calculated on the year, to 14.7 of the population, as compared with 16.9 in the foregoing week, this being also somewhat lower than the rate for the corresponding week of last year.

Of the large German cities, only Crefeld, Elberfeld, Barmen, Essen, and Schöneberg (with 10 per thousand) had more favorable figures than Berlin. The rate of mortality of Charlottenburg and of Düsseldorf corresponded exactly with the Berlin figure. Rixdorf (with